Patent of Importation in the United

Kingdom of Great Britain.

FOSSES MOBILES INODORES,

OR

PRIVIES TRANSPORTABLE AND WITHOUT ODOUR,

Of the Invention of Mr. Cazeneuve, and the Fabrication of the Calcarious Urine, and fine sifted Dung, by the Process in Chemistry of Mr. Donat.

ENTERPRIZE OF FAUCHE-BOREL and Co.

FOR THE GENERAL SALUBRITY AND SAFETY

AGAINST THE INTERIOR FILTRATIONS OF

PRESENT FOSSES OR PRIVIES.

Means offered to the British Government and to Landlords by Messrs. Fauche-Borel (naturalized Englishman), Joseph Massé and De Forcade, to preserve the Walls and Foun-

dations of public Edifices, Hotels and Private Houses, to avoid Repairs, as expensive as they are inconvenient, and to purify the foul Air of London and other great Cities of England and Scotland, by the suppression or alteration of the greater part of the present Privies, and the replacing them by the Fosses Mobiles and Inodores, for which there has been granted a Patent of Importation for Fourteen Years.



PROSPECTUS.

WITH the view to procure to Great-Britain the benefits of the two most happy and important discoveries which the eighteenth century has witnessed in France, Mr. Louis Fauche-Borel, proprietor at Neufchâtel in Switzerland (Englishman by naturalization), Joseph Massé, formerly administrator and proprietor at St. Assise, and John James Marie de Forcade, counsellor and ancient magistrate, general director of the enterprize of the moveable privies without odour, and of the fabrication of the calcarious urine and fine sifted manure of the invention of Messrs. Cazeneuve, Donat, and Co. have formed a partnership, and have acquired by an authentic Act of April 3, 1819, from Messrs. Donat and Co. all the chemical process, all the discoveries, and all the improvements and ameliorations for the which

this Company has obtained in France a patent of invention, of improvement and perfection.

Again, they have acquired all the new discoveries which have appeared every day, and with which, in the interests of the Company, Donat and Co. are occupied incessantly in all the learned societies in France, encouraged by the special protection which the French Government grants to these fine discoveries, as well as to all those which may yet be made during the four-teen years of their Patent.

The insalubrity of the air in several quarters (and more particularly in the city) in the great towns of England and Scotland, takes its rise from local causes which it would not be difficult to remove. The most positive, that which men versed in the arts and sciences useful to society have signalized as the most dangerous, is the duration of the present privies; and the long stay which the putrid excrements make there, is the true source of an infinity of evils which afflict humanity. We shall briefly recapitulate the principal motives which ought to render desirable a change of system in this part of the public service; and we shall indicate the remedy to the accidents occasioned by this pernicious custom.

Fosses d'Aisances, otherwise Privies.

There exist about two hundred thousand in London, of which hardly ten thousand are established on the principle of water, and are called water-closets. The others may be regarded, with reason, as the centre of a permanent contagion. They remain full during several years of the putrid excrements, and the urine of an immense population. The fermentation which is caused by this amalgamation is again nourished by the suds and dish water which the imprudence of servants adds to it. From thence the putrid scent which disengages itself by the gutters, spreads itself in the houses, and corrupts the surrounding atmosphere by its fatal evaporations. It is these unhealthy evaporations which, in the heat and changes of the weather, cause the stomach-ache, and incommode the sight and the smell on approaching the privies.

Consult in England the physicians, chemists, and other men who, by their profession or their taste, devote themselves to the relief of their fellow-creatures, and it will be seen (as it has been demonstrated by all the Royal Societies of Medicine in France), (a) that there escape,

⁽a) See the Report made to the Royal and Centrical

from these matters in fermentation, pestilential particles by the opening of the seats of the privies; that it is often during the time that is passed there that a great number of persons of both sexes contract indispositions and illnesses of the most dangerous description, such as the opthalmia, the piles, endemical fevers, diarrhæs, dysenteries, and particularly those ulcers which conduct women in the vigour of life to an early tomb, after the most long and insupportable sufferings. To be convinced of the truth of these assertions, consult the works of Portal, Ferial, Laborie, Parmentier, Cadet, and particularly that of Doctor Gerand, director of the Faculty of Paris, entitled "Essay on the suppression of the fosses d'aisances, or privies," printed at Paris in 1786. The same causes produce the same effects in the infirmeries and the

Society of Agriculture in its sitting of August 19, 1818, at Paris; the Supplement of Mr. Francois, of Neufchâteau; the Report presented January 2, 1819, by the Commission of the Royal Society of Medicine at Marseilles; that of the Society for the Encouragement of the National Industry of January 15, 1819, and that from the Society of Medicine at Lyons of April 16, 1819; and of the Society of Emulation at Rouen February 1, 1819; also that of the Faculty of Paris May 6, 1819.

houses of correction, and much quicker still; the individuals who people these places of suffering, being more disposed, by their stay in these narrow damp situations, deprived of air, to receive the inoculation of the exhalations which escape continually from the privies. To be assured of the exactitude of these melancholy truths, visit the prisons of the King's Bench, the Fleet, Newgate, and other establishments. The expences occasioned by the long stay of the indigent classes of society and the prisoners in the infirmaries and prisons, are also a considerable additional burthen, which, without being much overrated, may be estimated at several thousand pounds a year, in comprehending the expences of the naval and military hospitals of Greenwich and Chelsea, and those of construction and repairs. The opinion of several men of state, at once learned and economical, attribute also to these causes the endemical disorders which cut down so many unhappy creatures in these asylums of misery, and against which, frequently, all the succours of art are unavailing, because the principle which causes and keeps them up (the putridity) is permanent.

Emptying of the Privies.

This operation carries with it great inconveniencies. The opening of the privies is but too often the cause of the death of several of the individuals which necessity constrains to exercise this trade, and of numberless lethargies to which the workmen employed in the repairs become victims, for then the putrid matters, struck by the exterior air, and put in motion by the filling of the holes, ferment again with more force, and spread in the houses an odour so insupportable, that the inhabitants and the neighbours are infected with it, and deprived of sleep during the time the emptying conti-All these unhappy workmen lead a languishing life from the attacks of the ophthalmia, the colic, etc.

For these last five and twenty years, the public papers present a frightful nomenclature of the accidents arrived not only to the workmen who execute the painful operation of emptying the privies, but also to persons of all the classes of society. We could cite several recent examples related in the different newspapers of London.

This air is so dangerous, that women in child-

bed and other sick people have been found stifled in their beds; that precious metals, and gold and silver lace have suffered an alteration so strong, that this latter article has been completely spoiled; and yet these inconveniences and this species of calamity are repeated every day, in many different quarters of the metropolis.

It must be added, that in spite of the care and vigilance of the local authorities, it has been impossible, as yet, to obtain any real amelioration in this part of the public service; and that it must be regarded as a thing extremely difficult, with the present system; whereas that proposed by the contractors of the fosses mobiles, or moveable privies, is free from all these inconveniences.

Dangers resulting from the interior Filtrations.

Another inconvenience proceeding from the existence of the present privies, is the infiltration of the liquid part of the excrements. This infiltration takes place in the cellars of houses, in the partition walls and in the wells, where it poisons the water, and occasions expensive lawsuits between the landlords. This liquid is so much the more dangerous, as it has no outlet

for evaporation, flows under ground to the springs, and makes a way by a thousand imperceptible channels to the river, where it corrupts the water destined to form the drink and dress the victuals of an immense population.

The injury which these infiltrations cause to the walls of the privies renders necessary frequent and expensive repairs. No one is ignorant that the putrid excrements and the urine produce, by the fermentation, and the mixture of earth and stones, a saltpetre which destroys every thing it touches. By the adoption of the moveable privies, the contractors guarantee and assure to government and to landlords the entire suppression of all these serious inconveniences; for which object the only means is to annihilate these receptacles, as the sole cause of the series of accidents which we have just described.

On the Establishment of the Moveable Privies without Odour, in place of the present ones.

In vain to this day have been sought the means of replacing the existing privies, to purify the air of all great cities. It is proved that governments have sacrificed thousands to this object, without being able to remedy the inconveniences they occasion. More fortunate in their combi-

nations, Messrs. Fauche-Borel, Massé and Forcade, animated by the desire of rendering service to the British nation, have spared nothing to attain their end. The most difficult problem to solve was, to discover the means to separate, and to prevent the fermentation of, the excrements and the urine, the first cause of the putrefaction which they undergo in the present privies. The internal disposal of the recipients has given so evidently this happy result, that the preliminary experiences, which have taken place by superior order, have obtained, in France, the most complete success.

By means of the moveable privies, they have succeeded in avoiding all fermentation, by the separation of the excrements and the urine, from the moment they pass into the basons; in sort that they no longer contract any unpleasant scent, either inwardly or outwardly, and that the places wherein the apparatus is fixed cannot receive any unpleasant emanation.

The moveable privies, then, will replace with invaluable advantages the present ones. They may be established in a greater or lesser quantity, in proportion to the number of persons who use them, either in the present privies, when they shall be disposed to this effect, or in

other local situations. A few feet in diameter suffice for the site. The landlords can appropriate the surplus of the ground occupied by the present privies to build cellars, etc.

The carrying away of the moveable privies, and the replacing them without the smallest delay, will take place at periods determined by the landlords, and according to the localities, either by day or by night; and as the recipients are hermetically closed, so that none of the matter can penetrate, there cannot result any species of odour. This operation is performed with such celerity, that it lasts only a few minutes, and occasions neither noise nor trouble. The men employed in this service will be as cleanly in their appearance as other artisans.

With respect to the expence which the replacing of the present privies by the moveable ones will occasion to landlords, that also of emptying them, and keeping them in order, during the duration of the patent of importation, the Company having less in view their particular interest than the general good, have fixed the rate at a price inferior to that it costs at present to the proprietors of houses for the periodical emptying and repairs of the actual privies.

Summary of the Advantages resulting from the adoption of the Fosses Mobiles, or Moveable Privies.

The dangers and the inconveniences of the present privies, which are not constructed on the plan of water-closets, cannot be called in doubt. Their suppression, then, ought to be considered as a real and important benefit for all classes of society. The system of the moveable privies will put an end to the loss of men who perish in the emptying of the present ones, or afterwards; and to the sources of numberless complaints which conduct every day so many individuals into the hospitals. The salubrity of the metropolis will, in fine, obtain, by the realisation of this new system, all the melioration of which it is susceptible; and there will no longer be seen, particularly in London, young people of both sexes lose that beautiful carnation with which nature has embellished them.

The nation will save, firstly, the considerable sums which are expended annually in the expences attendant on the sicknesses of persons of all ages and sex, whom the pestilential air, that evaporates from the privies, drive to the numberless hospitals of the metropolis.

Secondly, the government, for all the public edifices, and landlords, for their houses, will each be relieved from the considerable expences to which they are now subjected for the construction and repairs of the present privies.

Thirdly, the government, in short, as well as the landlords, will economise the capital which they are now obliged to employ in new constructions and daily repairs, and in the expence of emptying the privies. The interest only of this capital will nearly suffice for the establishing, the keeping in order, and the emptying of the moveable privies, all the time of the duration of the patent of importation; from whence it follows, that this mass of economy may be more usefully employed in additional buildings, or productive embellishments.

Who is the tenant who would not prefer hiring a house where he is assured of having nothing to fear from the infection which exists actually in the major part of houses, from the present privies, and the mode of emptying them?

With regard to the assurance given by the contractors, that the foundation of the walls which join the privies will not experience any decay, and consequently will not be subject

to continual repairs, and that the well water will no longer be corrupted by the interior filtrations, there will be given to the landlords, in the office of the contractors, all the explanations they can desire, as there will also be offered to them all the necessary facilities for the mode of payment of the subscriptions. (b)

As to those landlords who have recently had their privies emptied, but who desire to profit immediately by the advantages which are offered by the utility of the moveable ones, the contractors, in concert with the nightmen, undertake to dispose the present privies to receive the new apparatus; the company has also a new mode of replacing the basons of the water-closets and their accessories, by others more agreeable and less expensive.

In the general interest, the application of the system of the moveable privies will be made, with the permission of public authority, for the establishment of public, private and transportable ones, which, in a great capital, cannot be dispensed with, without real inconvenience.

Besides, the retribution required for the use

⁽b) If any object of importance be thrown by accident into the moveable privies, on giving notice at the Office of the Contractors they may be immediately recovered.

of them will be so moderate, that the public in general, and foreigners, will appreciate this species of establishment doubly from its decency, and the salubrity which will result from it. These places will be so disposed, that the poor, as well as the rich, will there find comfort and cleanliness.

We will dwell no longer on the evident advantages which will result to the public, to government, and to landlords, from the establishment of these moveable privies, and the suppression of the actual ones. These advantages are so notorious, and of so superior an order to all that have been invented to the present day, that the simple exposition which we have presented will suffice to convince entirely the persons who read it.

In this persuasion, we hope that the British government, always disposed to receive favorably, and to encourage by its authority, all the productions imprinted with the seal of public utility, will appreciate an invention as useful for the good of humanity as is become the system of the vaccine, which notwithstanding, without the tutelar support of government and the suffrages of enlightened men, would have been infallibly lost to future generations, and

have sunk, from its origin, under the force of ignorance, jealousy, and prejudice.

The present Memorial will be submitted to the judgment of the several learned societies of the metropolis. The enlightened members who compose them will, without doubt, welcome. the means of putting this enterprize in execution, with sentiments of philanthropy, in harmony with this enlightened age. They may name committees to verify the experiments which will be made on a large scale, in a public establishment, by superior order. The Contractors. flatter themselves that the process, as simple as it is ingenious, will unite the suffrages of all impartialmen, without the concurrence of whom even the most interesting discoveries in the benefit of humanity can never triumph over the obstacles which surround them.

Messrs. Fauche-Borel, Massé and de Forcade since the month of January last have formed the resolution to establish in the United Kingdoms of England and Scotland the new discoveries of which the advantages have just been analysed; they have occupied themselves to unite all the

means necessary to prepare the success of this operation, in assuring to themselves at Paris, from the French Company, the possession of its discoveries to execute on its system: firstly, the same models, plans, devices, drawings, descriptive memorials, and authentic documents. Secondly, the complete apparatus of the different numbers, dimensions and forms, with filtering stones, moveable tubes, guantries, mechanical seats, and other accessories. Thirdly, the process for the fabrication of the calcarious vegetable powder, fabricated by means of the urine, and that for the fabrication of saltpetre, extracted from the said calcarious powder. This latter article will be appreciated by the importance of the productions which result from it. Thus the association of this Company presents at once the means of health, cleanliness, and economy to great towns, and abundant manure for the lands, as well as saltpetre of the finest quality for commerce and government establishments.

By means of this new process put in practice, the fine sifted manure proceeding from the solid matters is prepared and ready to be employed in manuring the land in the space of one month; and the urine is rendered compact in less than three hours, without scent, capable of being transported any where, and containing vegetable salts, the most fertile to manure the gardens, kitchen-gardens, fruit trees, artificial meadows, potatoes, and generally all the productions which require a careful cultivation.

The Company Fauche-Borel, being the only one recognised by the Inventors, and by the administration of Paris, the only one that can justify the possession of sufficient titles to answer the confidence it claims, has no need to warn the Public against all concurrence which may establish itself in London on the same system; since the Company reckons among its partners M. de Forcade, general director of the French Company, and who has been at the head of its administration from its commencement. This guarantee is of a nature to refute all the pretensions of persons who may announce themselves in England, Scotland and Ireland, as possessors of the process which the Company Fauche-Borel can alone guarantee as génuine.

London, 1st July, 1819.

